

10/718,912
Art Unit 1764

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of the Claims

5 Pending Claims

1. (currently amended): A process for reducing the sulfur and/or nitrogen content of a distillate feedstock to produce refinery transportation fuel or blending components for refinery transportation fuel wherein the feedstock contains sulfur-containing and ~~[[/or]]~~ nitrogen-containing organic impurities which process comprises:

(a) Contacting the feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of an oxidation catalyst comprising at least one active ~~[[a]]~~ Group VIII metal selected from the group consisting of the d-transition elements in the Periodic Table having atomic number from 21 to 30 inclusive, and a basic support selected from the group consisting of alkali oxides and alkaline earth oxides to convert the sulfur and ~~[[/or]]~~ nitrogen-containing organic impurities to oxidized sulfur and ~~[[/or]]~~ nitrogen-containing compounds; and

(b) Separating a portion of the oxidized sulfur and/or nitrogen-containing compounds from the oxidation zone effluent as by distillation to recover a distillate effluent having a reduced amount of the oxidized sulfur and/or nitrogen-containing compounds and a TAN number of less than about 2.0 mg KOH/g.

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2. (currently amended): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is cobalt and the basic support is member of the group consisting of magnesium oxide and calcium oxide.

5 Claims 3 - 8 (canceled)

9. (original): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is cobalt and the basic support is magnesium oxide.

10 10. (original): The process of claim 9 wherein the Group VIII metal is present in an amount ranging from about 4 wt. % to about 12 wt. %.

11. (currently amended): The process of claim 10 [[1]] wherein the distillate effluent possesses a sulfur content of less than about less than 5 ppm wt.

15 12. (currently amended): The process of claim 11 [[1]] where in the distillate effluent possesses a nitrogen content of less than about less than 10 ppm wt.